

**Lieutenant Governor John Garamendi Votes
No on 10 Percent Student Fee Hike
at California State University Trustees Meeting**

**Trustees approve the increase by a 17 to 2 vote with
only Garamendi and student trustee dissenting**

LONG BEACH - Lieutenant Governor John Garamendi, a California State University trustee, voted against a 10 percent hike in undergraduate student fees for the next school year at today's CSU trustees meeting. This fall, student tuition will increase by \$306 a year raising tuition to \$3,354 this fall compared to the \$3,048 average annual basic fee now.

"In a major economic downturn when families have lost their jobs and their homes, it has never been more important for the California State University system to be financially available to all qualified students to give them the opportunity to improve their lives and communities and contribute to the economy of the state of California. But for the third year in a row, this tuition increase is really yet another tax on students that discourages qualified, hard working high school graduates from entering the CSU system," Lieutenant Governor John Garamendi said.

Factoring in housing, food, transportation and other expenses, the estimated total cost to attend one of the 23 CSU campuses ranges from \$15,891 a year at Cal State Bakersfield to \$20,388 at San Diego State.

Adjusted for inflation, student fees at UC and CSU have more than doubled since 1990, while student fees at California's community colleges have more than tripled. Because of budget cuts to the systems, UC has cut fall 2009 freshman enrollment by 2,300 students, and CSU has cut fall 2009 freshman enrollment 10,000 students.

According to a study commissioned by the Campaign for College Opportunity, if an additional two percent of Californians earned associate's degrees and another one percent earned bachelor's degrees, California's economy would grow by \$20 billion, our state and local tax revenues would increase by \$1.2 billion a year, and 174,000 new jobs would be created. Of the 4.5 million new jobs that will be available by 2025, it is estimated that 3.5 million will require at least a bachelor's degree.

Garamendi, also a University of California regent, last week also voted no on raising UC undergraduate student fees by 9.3 percent.